



A BOOK-LENGTH BLAST--
'The ATOM--DESTRUCTION of EARTH!'

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

MAY
NO. 24

12¢

The **ATOM**



IN ANOTHER
MINUTE YOU'LL
BE ALL-PLANT,
ATOM-- AND
THEN... **SNIP!**
SNIP!
SNIP!

THROW YOUR VOICE



Throw your voice into trunks, behind doors, everywhere. Instrument fits in your mouth and out of sight. Fool teacher, friends and family. Free book on "How to Become a Ventriloquist." No. 137 25¢

SILENT DOG WHISTLE



This whistle can't be heard by human ears, but Rover can hear it half a mile away. Your dog will understand that this whistle is for him alone. Be amazed how quickly he responds. No. 701 \$1.00

MUSICAL JUKE BOX BANK

Drop in a coin and the turntable revolves to a luring melody... just like the modern juke box that youngsters adore. Make savings a pleasure—money mounts up. Made of sturdy metal. 4 1/2" x 4". No. 65 \$1.50



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SURPRISE PACKAGE

Are you willing to take a chance? We won't tell you what you get, but because you're willing to gamble, we'll give you more than your money's worth. Only 50¢ No. 678



AMAZING MINIATURE RADIO

This tiny, leather weight radio operates without batteries, without tubes, but brings you years of listening pleasure. There's nothing to wear out, nothing to replace. No. 044 \$2.98



YOU, TOO, CAN BE TOUGH

Master Jiu Jitsu and you'll win any fight. This book gives all the grips, blocks, etc. which are so effective in counter-attack. FREE book on how to perform strong man stunts also included. No. 224 \$1.00

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A specially treated pair of sunglasses with secret mirrors that enable you to see behind you without anyone knowing you're watching. Really comes in handy at times. No. 30 75¢



TREASURE CHEST OF FUN

MONSTER SIZE MONSTERS



A full 6 feet tall in authentic full color and a very life-like you'll probably find yourself talking to them. We have those two all-time favorites — spine-chilling Frankenstein, and the mad vampire Dracula. Reproduced on Durable Poster Stock. No. F17 \$1.40



X-RAY SPECS

Sit on a pair of X-Ray Specs and you won't believe your eyes! Based on an optical illusion principle, they allow you

to seemingly "see" the bones of your hands. Ridiculous fun at parties — your friends will think you can see right through them! C-14-27 No. FL7 \$1.00



Boomerang BOOMERANG

Here's something new in target throwing. In case you miss, it comes right back to you, and bing! you're all set to try again. More fun than a "barrel of monkeys." No. 141 60¢

WORMS

Drop these screamingly innocent pellets into a glass of water and magically a worm will appear. Can you imagine the look of horror on your victims face? It's harmless. No. 612 15¢



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The most popular joke novelty in years! Wind up and wear it like a ring. When you shake hands, it almost lures the victim off his feet with a "shocking sensation." Absolutely harmless. No. 239 Only 50¢



MINIATURE SECRET CAMERA

Precision camera so small, it fits in cigarette pack. Weighs 2 1/2 ounces and takes 10 pictures per roll. Precision ground lens and time exposure shutter. Can be hidden anywhere. Complete with free roll of film. No. 788 \$1.00 6 Rolls Film 79¢



ONION GUM

Yes—Looks like real chewing gum but tastes like... like... ONIONS! It's too funny! 5¢ slices to a pack. No. 281 20¢

BIKE SPEEDOMETER

Now you can know how fast you're riding with this precision engineered speedometer for only 75¢. You can time yourself for racing, sports, distance. Just fasten it to your handle bar and go. No. 199 75¢



AMAZING NEW SPACE PHONE SET—2 WAY—SENDS—RECEIVES

You can talk back and forth between houses, from room to room and from secret hiding places because it's portable — no electric wires — no batteries. Employs the principle of transmission by diaphragms and taut string. No. 194 69¢



TRICK BLACK SOAP

Ordinary looking piece of soap. Victim washes face and gets blacker and blacker. When he gets a look in the mirror, he'll be shocked. Harmless. No. 575 Only 25¢



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Rush me the items listed below. If I am not 100% satisfied, I may return any part of my purchase after 10 days Free Trial for full refund of purchase price.

Item	Name of Item	How Many	Total Price

☐ I enclose in full payment. Same guarantee.
☐ Send C.O.D. I will pay postman on delivery plus postage.

Name

Address

Sorry, we cannot ship orders for less than \$1.00. Kindly add 15¢ for postage and handling to all orders.

The ATOM



HE'S BACK AGAIN--
JASON WOODRUE,
MASTER OF THE
PLANT WORLD!
THIS TIME EVEN MAYA,
QUEEN OF THE FLOWER
SPRITES, MUST BOW TO
HIS SUPERIOR POWERS!

AND WHEN SHE DES-
PERATELY ENLISTS THE
AID OF THE ATOM TO
DEFEAT HER FLORAL
FOE, SHE AND THE TINY
TITAN DISCOVER THAT
THEIR OWN WORLD HAS
TURNED AGAINST THEM!

SO SINISTER IS THE
SCHEME OF THE
PLANT MASTER THAT--
EVEN IF THEY SHOULD
DEFEAT HIM-- HE HAS
SO ARRANGED MATTERS
THAT THERE COULD BE
NO PREVENTING ...

THE ATOM- DESTRUCTION OF EARTH!

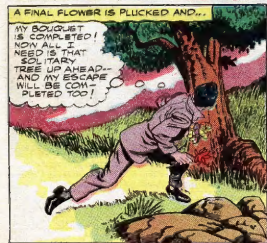
Story by
Gardner Fox
Art by
Gil Kane
& Sid Greene

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THE GREAT SOLE SHINNERS-- FACES-- REVEALS A STARTLED WOOD DRYAD INSIDE THE TREE THAT GIVES HER LIFE AND SHELTER...

COME ON OUT! I-- JASON WOODRUE MASTER OF THE PLANT WORLD-- COMMAND YOU TO DO SO!



THE DRYAD HESITATES! TO STAY LONG UN-PROTECTED IN THE OUTSIDE WORLD OF EARTH WILL MEAN HER DEATH! THEN AS THE BAYING HOUNDS COME CLOSER...

OUT, I SAY! I MUST USE YOUR TREE AS AN ESCAPE-- HATCH INTO YOUR FLORAL WORLD!



YES--THIS IS THAT SAME JASON WOODRUE WHO ONCE FOUGHT THE ATOM AND WAS PREVENTED BY THE TINY TITAN FROM CONQUERING THE WORLD! *... NO ONE CAN FOLLOW ME--IN HERE! ONLY I--WITH MY KNOWLEDGE OF THE PLANTS AND THEIR EERIE SECRETS--KNOW OF THIS METHOD OF FLEEING EARTH!



PLEASE-- DON'T--

#EDITOR'S NOTE! THE ATOM #1: "MASTER OF THE PLANT WORLD!"

ABANDONED ON EARTH, THE DRYAD SHINNERS FEARFULLY AND...

THE DOGS-- COMING CLOSER! PLEASE--OH, PLEASE LET ME IN--OR I'LL DIE...



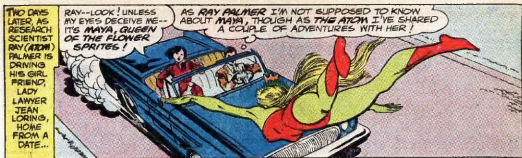
THEN AS THE DOGS COME BOUNDING UP TO THE ISOLATED TREE, THE WOOD NYMPH FLEES FROM WHAT WAS ONCE HER HOME...



WHERE'D WOODRUE GO? HE'S NOT HIDING ANYWHERE ON THE TREE--

YET THE WAY THE DOGS ARE ACTING UP, HE MUST BE SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE! WE'D BETTER NOT PUBLICIZE HIS ESCAPE UNTIL WE CAN INVESTIGATE THIS MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE!





AS THE RADIO BLARES OUT ITS APPEAL, HE DIALS JEAN LORING'S HOME NUMBER...

CALLING THE ATOM!
URGENT! CONTACT
MISS JEAN LORING
AT HER HOME!

I'M ON
MY WAY!

DIVING INTO THE TELEPHONE TRANSMITTER, THE SHRINKING ATOM PREPARES TO MERGE HIS MICROSCOPICALLY SMALL BODY WITH THE DIAPHRAGM END OF THE PHONE...

THE SOUND WAVES FROM THE RADIO WILL SET UP THE ELECTRIC IMPULSES NECESSARY TO CARRY ME ALONG THE TELEPHONE WIRES THEN BE TRANSLATED BACK INTO SOUND WAVES ON THE OTHER END OF THE PHONE!

WHEN THAT TELEPHONE
RANG, I WAS HOPING
IT'D BE YOU--

WHY THE
EMERGENCY
APPEAL--
MAYA!
WHAT ARE
YOU
DOING
HERE?

JASON WOODRUE
HAS ESCAPED
FROM YOUR
EARTH-PRISON
AND HAS ENTERED
MY WORLD OF
FLORIA! I'M
SURE MY WORLD--
IS IN DANGER--

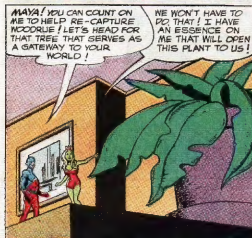
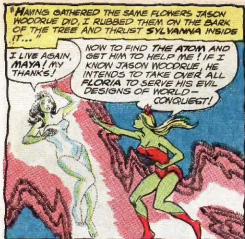
--AND YOU
WANT ME TO
HELP YOU
OVERCOME
HIM, AS WE
DID BEFORE!
WHEN DID
ALL THIS
HAPPEN?

I RECEIVED A TELE-
PATHIC CALL FOR
HELP FROM A DRYAD,
JUST AS WOODRUE
PULLED HER FROM
HER TREE AND WENT
THROUGH THAT GATE-
WAY INTO MY WORLD!
NATURALLY, I HAD TO
GO AND RESCUE HER
OR SHE WOULD HAVE
PERISHED ON
EARTH...

"AS I CAUGHT HOLD OF HER, TO RE-
VIVE HER, I FELT AN ODD WEAKNESS."

HERE, SYLVANNA! THIS FLOWER
NECTAR WILL-- OH! THAT TINGLING
IN MY ARM WHERE I'M TOUCHING
HER! SUDDENLY, I FEEL SO
LISTLESS!





STORY CONTINUES ON 5TH PAGE FOLLOWING!

**DYNAMITE!
CHOICE!**



**DC SELLS TWICE AS MANY COMICS AS ANY OTHER COMPETITOR!
IN FACT, ALMOST AS MANY AS ALL OTHER COMICS COMBINED!**

WE MUST BE DOING SOMETHING—RIGHT?

GRANDPA MUNSTER "DIGS" THE DRAG-U-LA!

The **KAT**
from **AMT**
AND GEORGE
BARRIS
GIVE
GRANDPA
MUNSTER
A
SURPRISE---

GRANDPA, HERE IS
YOUR DREAM CAR.

WOW---I'M "DYING" TO DRIVE
IT. I'LL "BURY" HERMAN AT
THE STRIP

THERE'S STILL A
BIGGER SURPRISE
FOR YOU!



AMT'S MADE YOUR
DRAG-U-LA INTO A
SUPER-DETAILED
KIT!

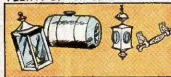
THAT'S A "DEAD"
RINGER---JUST LIKE
HERMAN'S "MUNSTER
KOACH" MODEL!



COMPLETE WITH MUSTANG
ENGINE



PLENTY OF "CHROME" GOODIES.



HERE
NOW!

AMT'S FABULOUS
DRAG-U-LA OR
HERMAN'S MUNSTER
KOACH! BUY 'EM
BOTH---\$1.70 EACH!

AMT
CORPORATION,
BOX
400,
TROY,
MICHIGAN.

**a
m
t**

WHO are the
REAL KINGS
of **SUPER-SPEED**?

Today's **FLASH**
AND
KID FLASH
OR--

The **ORIGINAL**
FLASH and
JOHNNY QUICK
WHO REIGNED DURING THE
GOLDEN AGE OF COMICS

JUDGE FOR YOURSELF WHEN YOU READ
THIS SPECIAL SUPER-SPEED ISSUE

DC

80th GIANT

FLASH

25¢
No. 100
APRIL

WHIRLWIND
ADVENTURES
OF THE
FASTEST MEN
ALIVE!

A CREAM-OF-THE-CROP COLLECTION OF STORIES
Featuring The **FLASH**'S GREATEST SUPER-SPEED RIVALS!

A MYSTERY SPELLED BY DEAD FLASH! CHASES BACKWARDS--"THE FLASHING MACE BOARD TUNE!"

A SUPER-SPEED SPECTACULAR STARRING KID FLASH--THE FASTEST BOY ON EARTH!

TWO CLASSICS FROM THE GOLDEN AGE OF COMICS!

FLASH FLASH IN A RACE AND WINNER FRONT RUNNER! DUEL OF DANGER!

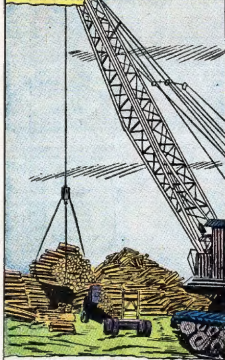
JOHNNY QUICK AND HIS MACE IN "THE ADVENTURE OF ANTELOPE BOY!"

ON SALE FEB. 10th

DC
SUPERMAN
INTERNATIONAL COMICS

AMAZING RATIOS!

IT TAKES ABOUT 80 ACRES OF WOODLAND TO SUPPLY THE AMOUNT OF PAPER USED EACH WEEK BY A LARGE METROPOLITAN NEWSPAPER...



BIG MOBILE DERRICK UNLOADING PULPWOOD FROM A TRUCK IN A PAPER MILL YARD.

THERE ARE ABOUT 2,000 PARTICLES OF DUST PER CUBIC INCH IN NORMAL COUNTRY AIR, COMPARED TO 115,000 DUST PARTICLES IN THE SAME AMOUNT OF CITY AIR...



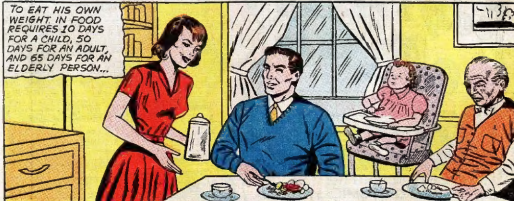
DUST STORM PASSING OVER MIDLAND, TEXAS

IT WOULD TAKE AT LEAST 100,000 SHREWS--THE WORLD'S SMALLEST WARM-BLOODED AND BACKBONED ANIMAL--TO EQUAL THE BULK OF A SINGLE ELEPHANT--THE EARTH'S LARGEST LAND-LIVING ANIMAL...



PIGMY SHREW

TO EAT HIS OWN WEIGHT IN FOOD REQUIRES 10 DAYS FOR A CHILD, 50 DAYS FOR AN ADULT, AND 65 DAYS FOR AN ELDERLY PERSON...



SCOOTER -- IS COMING !

DIRECT CURRENTS

By Popular Demand—the feature you've asked for—a column devoted to previews of coming attractions in the DC line of Dynamic Creations! Look for **DIRECT CURRENTS** in each issue of DC's mighty mag!

THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD features another fabulous team-up of top DC heroes—**THE FLASH** meets the **DOOM PATROL**! See the **FASTEST MAN ALIVE** join **ELASTI-GIRL**, **ROBOTMAN** and **NEGATIVE MAN** for fantastic action in the April-May issue, No. 65—on sale Feb. 22.

The nation's funniest friendly enemies, **THE FOX** AND **THE CROW**, star in their own laugh-smash mag, along with two howling hits, "Stanley and His Monster," wherein boy meets beast, and "The Brat Finks," those lovable H'I hipsters, in the April-May issue, No. 97, on sale Feb. 22.

AGENT DOUBLE-5—alias **JIMMY OLSEN**—swings back into action in his own mag, against a criminal organization more sinister than **SMERSH**, more threatening than **THRUSH**! It's called **SCAR**, and it plunges Jimmy into a new kind of danger, in the April issue, No. 92, on sale Feb. 22.

SUGAR AND SPIKE—April-May, No. 64—On sale Feb. 15—In a Special Ocean Voyage issue, **SUGAR** AND **SPIKE** go on a trip, take over a ship, almost sink it, catch a spy, and meet the President in "Baby Heroes," a complete, novel-length adventure!

TALES OF THE UNEXPECTED—April-May, No. 94—On sale Feb. 15—How would YOU like to step off a train and find your home town taken over by a bunch of **MONSTERS**? Read "The Monster Mayor, U.S.A.!" Also, another slameroo adventure of **AUTOMAN**—"Bodyguard to a Blonde!"

STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES—April-May, No. 126—On sale Feb. 15—Many G.I.'s thought their top-kicks **LOOKED** like gorillas! But this Sergeant really WAS a **GORILLA**—on a mission no human soldier could carry out!

SUPERBOY—April, No. 128—On sale Feb. 17—Presenting one of the greatest **SUPERBOY** epics of all time, starring two of the **BOY OF STEEL'S** arch-enemies—**DEV-EM**, the Knave from Krypton, and the **KRYPTONITE KID**, whose very touch can spell doom for **SUPERBOY**!

HOUSE OF MYSTERY—April, No. 158—On sale Feb. 17—It's the battle of the century! Robby Reed's fabulous **DIAL H FOR HERO** gimmick enables him to become a new super-hero! But this time, a dangerous criminal accidentally manages to "Dial V for Villain!"

METAL MEN—April-May, No. 19—On sale Feb. 17—The unique robots who act more human than humans found themselves attending a birthday party! The only trouble was—they were **INSIDE** the birthday cake!

KIDS! MAIL IN YOUR HOBBY HINTS TO: CAP'S, NATIONAL COMICS, 575 LEXINGTON AVE. NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022. IF PUBLISHED, YOU WILL RECEIVE \$5 AND THE ORIGINAL ART.

MOM, I SEE YOU CHANGED THE ROLL OF PAPER TOWELS. CAN I HAVE THE OLD CARDBOARD TUBE?

CERTAINLY.

THANKS!

WHAT ON EARTH DID YOU WANT THAT CARDBOARD TUBE FOR?

SEE! I TACK THEM UNDER MY TRAIN BOARD. THEY MAKE DANDY STORAGE BINS FOR MY MODELS. TRACK -- EVERYTHING!

CUT OUT FOR YOUR SCRAPBOOK

What's Your B.Q.*?

ON BROTHERHOOD WEEK (FEB. 20-26)

"AN UNSTINTING DEDICATION TO FREEDOM, TOLERANCE, AND INDIVIDUAL DIGNITY GAVE US OUR MIGHTY NATION. UNITED AND DETERMINED, WE MUST STAND READY TO PRESERVE OUR LEGACY."

PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON

(*BROTHERHOOD QUOTIENT.)

A. CHECK ONE COLUMN FOR EACH ITEM LISTED TO TEST YOUR LIKES AND DISLIKES.

	UGH! DISLIKE 	UM! LIKE 	SO-SO! LUKEWARM 	NO THOUGHT! VACANT 
Alligators				
Baptists				
Cabbage				
Catholics				
Detective Stories				
Foreigners				
Indians				
Jews				
Long-hair music				
Negroes				
Spiders				

B. DO YOU BELIEVE THAT "ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL?"

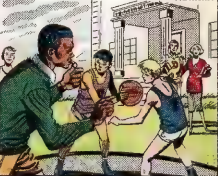
YES

NO



C. DO YOU THINK ALL YOUNG PEOPLE SHOULD HAVE THE SAME CHANCE FOR EDUCATION, SPORTS AND JOBS?

YES..... NO.....



HOW DID YOU MAKE OUT IN TEST A? ALL OF US HAVE SOME THINGS WE DON'T LIKE. WHEN THEY'RE VEGETABLES OR INSECTS--NO ONE CARES. BUT WHEN THEY'RE PEOPLE--YOU HURT THEM AND CHEAT YOURSELF.

IF YOU SCORED 3 YES ANSWERS ON QUESTIONS B, C AND D--YOU'RE OKAY! IF YOU DIDN'T--YOU'D BETTER START THINKING ABOUT IT!

D. WHEN A NEW CHILD COMES TO YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD, DO YOU GO OUT OF YOUR WAY TO MAKE HIM FEEL AT HOME?

YES.....

NO



THE ATOM-DESTRUCTION OF EARTH! PART 2

NOW
THAT
YOU'RE
HERE,
EVERY-
THING
WILL
BE ALL
RIGHT!

YOU MEAN--
NOW THAT
I'M HERE,
THE
TROUBLE
IS ABOUT
TO START!
LOOK
THERE!

AS THEY EMERGE INTO THE LAND OF FLORIA, A HORDE OF FAUNS SWEEPS DOWN UPON THEM! EYES BRILLIANT WITH THE LIGHT OF BATTLE, THEY GALLOP TOWARD ATOM AND MAYA--WHO CANNOT SUSPECT THAT JASON WOODRUE HAS ANTICIPATED WHAT THEY WOULD DO AND HAS TAKEN STEPS TO PREVENT THEIR INTERFERENCE WITH HIS WELL-LAID PLANS!



BEFORE THE ATOM CAN MANEUVER HIMSELF INTO POSITION TO WARD OFF THE ONCOMING ATTACK...



QUEEN YOU MAY BE, MAYA -- BUT ANOTHER STRONGER THAN YOU HAS USURPED YOUR POWERS! JASON WOODRUE IS NOW MASTER OF FLORIA!



AS THE HARD-HIT ATOM IS PROPELLED BACK TOWARD A TREE-BRANCH, HIS WITS WORK FURIOUSLY...

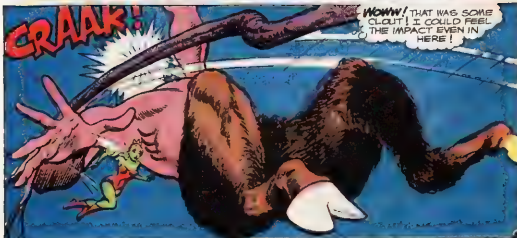
MAYA AND I ARE OUTNUMBERED--SO I'M GOING TO PULL A NEW STUNT--SOMETHING I'VE NEVER TRIED BEFORE!

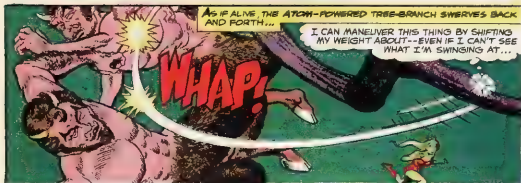


CLICKING HIMSELF TO ATOMIC SIZE, THE MIGHTY MITE PIERCES THE THICK TREE-BRANCH



NOW TO MAKE MYSELF HEAVY AND WHIP THE BRANCH DOWNWARD!





AS IF ALIVE, THE ATOM-POWERED TREE-BRANCH SWERVES BACK AND FORTH...

I CAN MANEUVER THIS THING BY SHIFTING MY WEIGHT ABOUT--EVEN IF I CAN'T SEE WHAT I'M SWINGING AT...

WHAP!

THEN, INCREASING SIZE, THE TINY TITAN APPEARS LIKE A SUBMARINE SURFACING, THE BETTER TO AIM HIS BATTERING BRANCH...

MAYA KNOWS WHAT I'M DOING! SHE'S LURING THAT FAUN RIGHT PAST ME!

I'VE GOT TO CALCULATE EACH LEAP AND EACH CHANGE OF WEIGHT JUST RIGHT! AND WHEN I DO...

...I HAVE ME A REAL GOOD WEAPON IN THIS THING!

WHIAK!



SUDDENLY, A RINGING CRY FROM MAYA...

ATOM! THEY'VE GRABBED ME!

GOT TO GO INTO ANOTHER SIZE--AND-WEIGHT--CLICKING ACTION...

DIPPING THE BRANCH FAR DOWN WITH HIS FULL 180-POUNDS-WEIGHT, THE WORLD'S SMALLEST SUPER-HERO LETS IT SNAP BACK, WHIPPING HIM UPWARD TOWARD...

THE HARD-SHELLED FRUIT ATOP THIS TREE--LOOK LIKE BOMBS...



THE BOMB-ATTACK WAS TOO SLOW-- THEY'RE RACING OFF WITH MAYA!



MAKING HIMSELF LIGHT AS A FEATHER, HE DROPS INTO THE WIND BUT SINCE HE IS UNFAMILIAR WITH THE STRANGE PLANT GROWTHS IN FLORIDA-- HE PASSES CLOSE TO A STRANGE SPECIES ...AND...



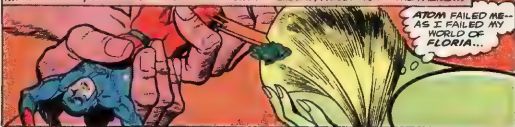
ATOM-- WATCH OUT! THAT'S AN EXPLOSI-PLANT NEAR YOU! DON'T GET TOO CLOSE OR--



TRIGGERED OFF BY THE BODY HEAT OF THE TINY TITAN, THE TINY PROJECTILES FROM THE PISTOLS OF THE EXPLOSI-PLANT ERUPT! ...



MOMENTS LATER, AN INERT ATOM IS LIFTED FROM THE GROUND, PRISONER OF THE FAUNES...



WHEN HE RECOVERS HIS SENSES, HE FINDS HIMSELF STARING UP AT THE SMIRKING PLANT MASTER...

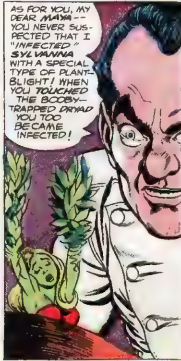
SO! YOU DECIDED TO TAKE A HAND IN MY LATEST GAME, eh, ATOM? THE RESULT, AS YOU SEE, IS **NEGATIVE!** THIS SPECIAL PLANT LIQUID IS GOING TO TURN YOU INTO A FLOWER! PLACE YOU COMPLETELY IN MY POWER!



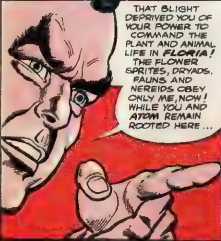
I--CAN'T MOVE! MY SKIN PORES ABSORBED THE CHEMICAL LIQUID-- BEGAN THE CHANGE ALMOST INSTANTLY!



AS FOR YOU, MY DEAR MAYA-- YOU NEVER SUSPECTED THAT I "INFECTED" SYLVANNA WITH A SPECIAL TYPE OF PLANT-BLIGHT! WHEN YOU TOUCHED THE BOOBY-- TRAPPED DRYAD YOU TOO BECAME INFECTED!



THAT BLIGHT DEPRIVED YOU OF YOUR POWER TO COMMAND THE PLANT AND ANIMAL LIFE IN FLORIA! THE FLOWER SPRITES, DRYADS, FAUNES AND NEREIDS OBEY ONLY ME, NOW! WHILE YOU AND ATOM REMAIN ROOTED HERE...



... I SHALL GO ABOUT MY BUSINESS OF USING FLORIA TO BOMBARD THE EARTH WITH AWESOME FORCES AND DESTROY IT! TURNED INTO AN ATOM-FLOWER AND A MAYA-FLOWER-- YOU SHALL BE UTTERLY HELPLESS TO STOP ME AS YOU DID BEFORE!





FROM MY SANCTUARY ON FLORIDA, I SHALL ARRAY THE FORCES OF THE FLOWER KINGDOM TO RAIN DEATH AND DESTRUCTION DOWN ON EARTH! NOBODY WILL KNOW WHERE THOSE FORCES ARE COMING FROM! NOBODY SHALL BE ABLE TO STOP THEM! WHEN I RETURN, YOU'LL BE ALL PLANT--AND THEN SNIP! SNIP!



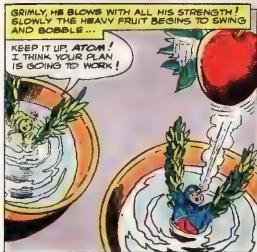
CAN'T MOVE MY ARMS OR LEGS! AND SINCE I CAN'T TOUCH THEM WITH THOSE LEAF-FINGERS OF MINE, MY SIZE-AND-WEIGHT CONTROL UNITS ARE USELESS! BUT AS LONG AS I HAVE A BREATH IN ME, I'M NOT GIVING UP...



PLANTS TURN TOWARD SUNLIGHT--A PROCESS CALLED **HELIOTRISM**! PERHAPS--IF I CAN MANAGE TO LET MYSELF BE DRAWN TOWARD THAT SHAFT OF LIGHT--THE RESULT WILL BE TO YANK MY FEET FREE OF THE SOIL AND CHEMICALS THAT HOLD THEM!

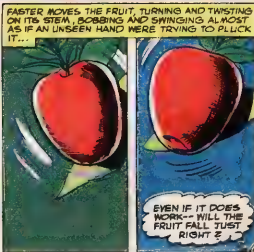


IT'S GETTING ME NOWHERE--I'M STILL STUCK--AND GETTING MORE PARALYZED BY THE MINUTE! **HEY!** I CAN STILL TALK! THAT MEANS I CAN USE MY BREATH TO BLOW THAT FRUIT UP THERE BACK AND FORTH!



GRIMLY, HE BLOWS WITH ALL HIS STRENGTH! GLOWLY THE HEAVY FRUIT BEGINS TO SWING AND BOBBLE...

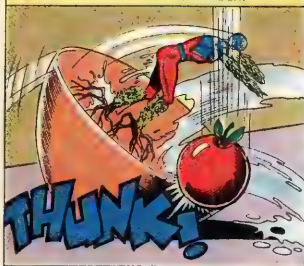
KEEP IT UP, ATOM! I THINK YOUR PLAN IS GOING TO WORK!



FASTER MOVES THE FRUIT, TURNING AND TWISTING ON ITS STEM, BOBBING AND SWINGING ALMOST AS IF AN UNSEEN HAND WERE TRYING TO PLUCK IT...

EVEN IF IT DOES WORK--WILL THE FRUIT FALL JUST RIGHT?

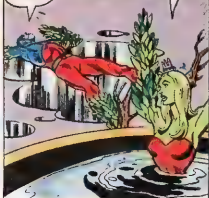
THE STEM SNAPS! THE FRUIT FALLS--CANNONADES INTO ATOM AND THE BOWL OF CHEMICALS...



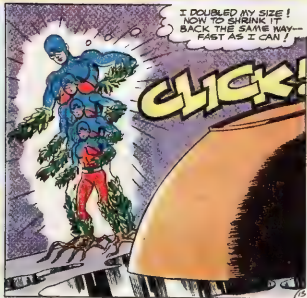
THROWN FREE, THE WORLD'S SMALLEST SUPER-HERO LIES HELPLESS, BODY GLISTENING WITH THE CHEMICAL SOLUTION...

IT DIDN'T WORK-- I STILL CAN'T MOVE!

YOU'VE GOT TO GET RID OF THE LIQUID, ATOM! HURRY-- BEFORE YOU BECOME ALL-PLANT!

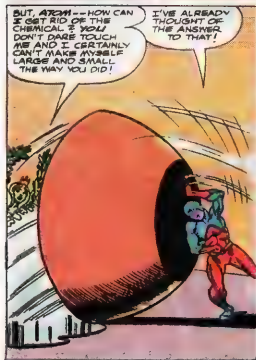


SURE! JUST AS ICE RETURNS TO ITS ORIGINAL WATERY STATE WHEN REMOVED FROM THE COLD WHICH FORMED IT--MAYBE MY BODY WILL RETURN TO NORMAL IF I CAN GET THIS LIQUID OFF ME! BUT HOW--I CAN'T MOVE--WAIT! MY FINGERS HAVE DRIED A BIT--I CAN MOVE THEM...

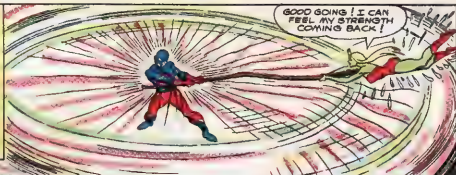


I DOUBLED MY SIZE! NOW TO SHRINK IT BACK THE SAME WAY-- FAST AS I CAN!

CLICK!



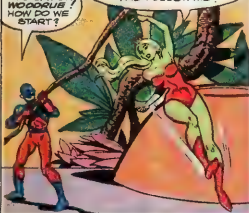
LIKE A HAMMER-THROWER IN A TRACK MEET, THE TINY TITAN SWINGS THE BRANCH WITH MAYA CLINGING TO IT, AROUND AND AROUND...



UNTIL AT LAST MAYA BECOMES HERSELF AGAIN...

NOW WE'VE GOT TO FIND JASON WOODRUE! HOW DO WE START?

WITH ONE OF THESE BOWLS, ATOM! GRAB HOLD OF IT-- AND FOLLOW ME!



JUST AS BLOODHOUNDS ON EARTH TRACK DOWN PEOPLE BY SMELLING SOMETHING THEY HAVE COME IN CONTACT WITH, HERE IN FLORIA WE HAVE COMPASS FLOWERS WHICH POINT IN THE DIRECTION A PERSON HAS GONE!



YOU SEE? AS SOON AS THEY SCENTED JASON WOODRUE FROM WHERE HIS HANDS HELD THE BOWL--THE PETALS BEGAN TO TURN IN THE DIRECTION HE TOOK!

TALK ABOUT WONDERS OF NATURE--!



IN TIME, OTHER FLOWER COMPASSES ALONG THE PATH DIRECT THEM TOWARD A GREAT NEST-LIKE CITADEL...

THAT IS WHERE JASON WOODRUE IS--INSIDE THAT STRONG-HOLD!

LET'S TAKE HIM!



AS THEY ARE ABOUT TO ENTER
WOODRUE'S FORTRESS...

OH!! I WAS SO ABSORBED
IN OUR DISCOVERY, I NEVER
SAW THIS WEB-WEAVER
PLANT!



WHOOF!
IT'S
WEBS ARE
STICKY!

THE WEB IS RAISED HIGH--
WITH ITS THICK CAPTIVES
CAUGHT ON THE GLUEY
STRANDS...



BEWARE
ITS CLUB-
LIKE PISTIL,
ATOM!
ONCE IT
SMACKS
ANYONE--
HE'S DONE
FOR!

IF ANYONE'S
DOING THE
CLOBBERING--
IT'S GOING
TO BE ME!

A POWDERPUFF PUNCH!
FORGOT I WAS LIGHT
WHEN MAYA ELENE ME
THREW THE AIR! I'LL TAKE
CARE OF THAT HEAVY-
WEIGHT PROBLEM--
RIGHT NOW!



STORY CONTINUES ON THE
NEXT PAGE...

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION (Act of October 23, 1962; Section 4359, Title 39, United States Code)

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408,000	388,000
232,000	246,000
2,354	3,178
235,234	249,178
142	143
355,396	349,320
132,604	134,680
408,000	388,000

I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete. IRWIN DENENFELD, Business Manager.

The ATOM-DESTRUCTION of EARTH--PART 3

LASHING AT THE SPIDER-PLANT WITH FEROCIOUS BLOWS, THE **TINY TITAN** WRENCHES FREE OF THE STICKY WEBBING THAT HOLDS HIM! WITH **MAVA** STILL HOPELESSLY ENTRAPPED, THE **WORLD'S SMALLEST SUPER-HERO** CONTINUES TO SEND BLOW AFTER BLOW AGAINST THE **EERIE ENTITY** OF THE FLOWER WORLD!



WITH A FINAL SAVAGE BLOW, THE ATOM PULVERIZES THE SPIDER-PLANT...

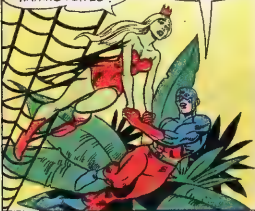
HYEEE!

HUH? THE PLANT MAKES SOUNDS?! IT MUST BE LIKE "SLIME MOLDS" ON EARTH WHICH POSSESS BOTH PLANT AND ANIMAL CHARACTERISTICS!



FREE AGAIN--BUT FOR HOW LONG? JASON WOODRUE WILL HAVE MANY MORE MENACES WAITING FOR US!

WE'LL TACKLE 'EM ONE AT A TIME--TILL WE REACH OUR GOAL!



THEY RACE ON--FLY ABOVE A MOUNT WHERE...

WATCH OUT FOR THOSE WATER GRIPPERS SHOOTING OUT OF THE WATER! IF THOSE STAMENS CATCH US--THEY'LL DRAG US UNDER!



FASTER THAN THE EYE CAN SEE, THE POWERFUL STAMENS OF THE WATER PLANTS SNATCH AT THEIR PREY...

MAYA--GLICK! GRAB HOLD OF ME AGAIN!



DESPERATELY THE FLOWER QUEEN HURLS HERSELF AT HER COMPANION, FEELS HER WRISTS CAUGHT AND HELD...



I'M GOING TO TRY AND YANK YOU LOOSE! THE STAMENS AROUND MY LEGS WILL GIVE ME A "FOOTHOLD" ON WHICH TO BRACE MYSELF!

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING



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PANTING--STRUGGLING AGAINST THIS EBRIE PLANT FOR HIS OWN LIFE AND THAT OF THE TINY QUEEN--HE JERKS FURIOUSLY...



HURRY--TIME AND WATER ARE RUNNING OUT ON US!

SNAP!

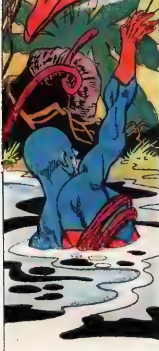
YOU'RE HALFWAY HOME FREE, MAYA!



SECONDS LATER...

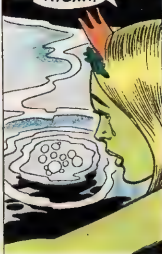
NOW FLY HIGH, MAYA--WELL OUT OF THEIR REACH!

ATOM--WHAT ABOUT--YOU?



THE WATER CLOSES OVER THE HEAD OF THE TINY TITAN! ONLY BUBBLES SHOW WHERE HE HAS BEEN...

SOB! HE GAVE HIS LIFE TO SAVE ME! ALONE, I CAN'T STOP JASON WOODRUE! OH!! ATOM--
ATOM!!



BUT--EVEN AS THOSE WATERS CLOSE ABOVE HIS HEAD, THE MIGHTY MITE CLICKS HIS SIZE-AND-WEIGHT CONTROL DEVICE, SHRINKING TO MICROSCOPIC SIZE...

I'M TOO SMALL NOW FOR THAT THING TO HOLD! I'LL SWIM TO THE SURFACE--UNSEEN--OUT OF ITS REACH...



HAPPINESS FLASHES
IN MAYA'S TEAR--
BLURRED EYES WHEN...

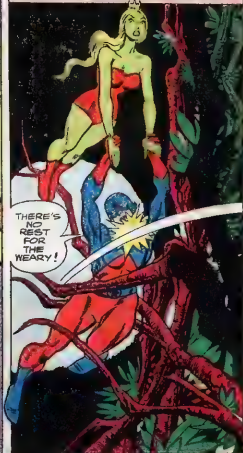


"PANT"
GIVE ME A
HAND, MAYA--
I'M ALL OUT
OF BREATH
GASP

FINE--NOW
LET'S GET
ON--WITH
OUR MISSION--

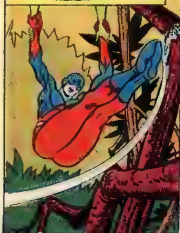


AFTER THE ATOM RESUMES HIS NORMAL
SIZE, THEY ADVANCE DEEPER INTO THE
TUNNELS OF THE NEST-FORTRESS --
WITH THE TWIGS THAT ARE PART OF ITS
WALLS AND CEILING SLASHING AT THEM...



THERE'S
NO
REST
FOR
THE
WEARY!

SLAMMING ONTO ONE CLUB-
LIKE TWIG WITH INCREASED
WEIGHT...



EVADING THE DEADLY BLOW
OF A SECOND...



SNAPPING A THIRD WITH A
POWERHOUSE HAND, THE
TINY TITAN BATTLES ON...



CRACK!

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING. 20



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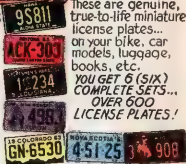


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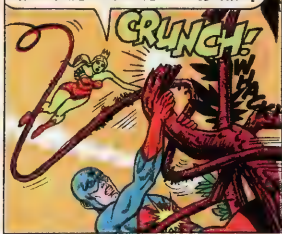
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MEANWHILE, MAYA RIPS LOOSE A NEARBY CLINGER VINE...



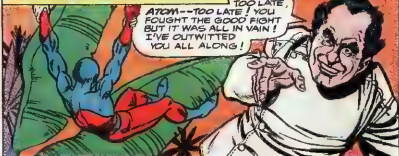
THERE--THAT'LL GIVE THOSE TREACHEROUS TWIGS SOMETHING ELSE TO HOLD ONTO!



JASON WOODRUE--
RIGHT AHEAD!



FROM HIS SANCTUARY INSIDE HIS CITADEL, THE MASTER OF THE PLANT WORLD HOWLS WITH GLEE...

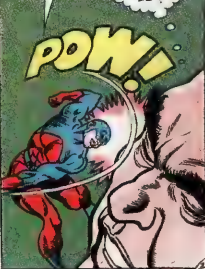


"AT THIS VERY MOMENT, THE STRANGE HYBRIDS I HAVE BRED HERE IN FLORIDA ARE CASTING FORTH THE DEADLY SEEDS OF RADIATION WHICH-- ONCE THEY EXPLODE-- WILL SEND DOWN A RADIOACTIVE SHOWER THAT WILL WIPE OUT ALL LIFE..."



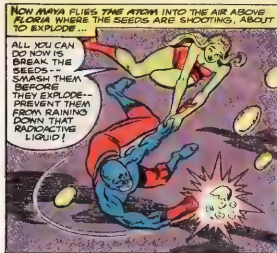
WHATEVER HAPPENS HERE--I'M TAKING YOU BACK TO EARTH--AND PRISON!

THAT'S MY CROWNING TOUCH! IT'S EXACTLY WHAT I WANT ATOM TO DO!



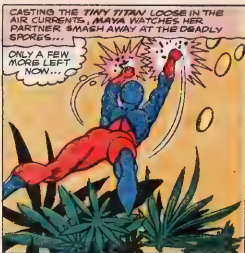
NOW MAYA FLIES THE ATOM INTO THE AIR ABOVE FLORIDA WHERE THE SEEDS ARE SHOOTING, ABOUT TO EXPLODE...

ALL YOU CAN DO NOW IS BREAK THE SEEDS--SMASH THEM BEFORE THEY EXPLODE--PREVENT THEM FROM RAINING DOWN THAT RADIOACTIVE LIQUID!



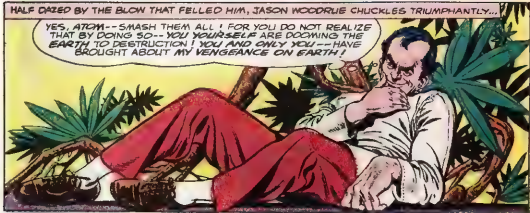
CASTING THE TINY TITAN LOOSE IN THE AIR CURRENTS, MAYA WATCHES HER PARTNER SMASH AWAY AT THE DEADLY SPORES...

ONLY A FEW MORE LEFT NOW...

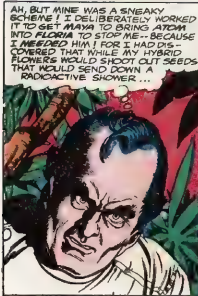


HALF DAZED BY THE BLOW THAT FELLEED HIM, JASON WOODRUE CHUCKLES TRIUMPHANTLY...

YES, ATOM--SMASH THEM ALL! FOR YOU DO NOT REALIZE THAT BY DOING SO--YOU YOURSELF ARE DOOMING THE EARTH TO DESTRUCTION! YOU AND ONLY YOU--HAVE BROUGHT ABOUT MY VENGEANCE ON EARTH!

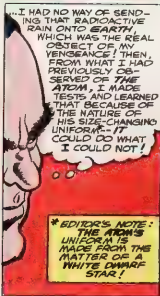


AH, BUT MINE WAS A SNEAKY SCHEME! I DELIBERATELY WORKED IT TO GET MAYA TO BRING ATOM INTO FLORIDA TO STOP ME--BECAUSE I NEEDED HIM! FOR I HAD DISCOVERED THAT WHILE MY HYBRID FLOWER'S WOULD SHOOT OUT SEEDS THAT WOULD SEND DOWN A RADIOACTIVE SHOWER...

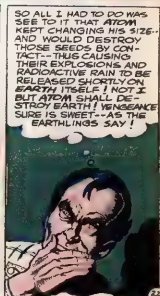


...I HAD NO WAY OF SEND-ING THAT RADIOACTIVE RAIN ONTO EARTH, WHICH WAS THE REAL OBJECT OF MY VENGEANCE! THEN, FROM WHAT I HAD PREVIOUSLY OBSERVED OF THE ATOM, I MADE TESTS AND LEARNED THAT BECAUSE OF THE NATURE OF HIS SIZE-CHANGING UNIFORM--IT COULD DO WHAT I COULD NOT!

*EDITOR'S NOTE: THE ATOM'S UNIFORM IS MADE FROM THE MATTER OF A WHITE DWARF STAR!



SO ALL I HAD TO DO WAS SEE TO IT THAT ATOM KEPT CHANGING HIS SIZE--AND WOULD DESTROY THOSE SEEDS--BY CONTACT--THUS CAUSING THEIR EXPLOSIONS AND RADIOACTIVE RAIN TO BE RELEASED SHORTLY ON EARTH ITSELF! NOT I BUT ATOM SHALL DESTROY EARTH! VENGEANCE SURE IS SWEET--AS THE EARTHLINGS SAY!



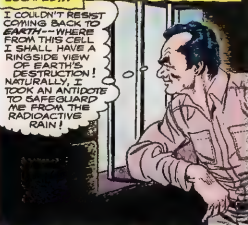
HIGH ABOVE THE CITADEL, THE TINY TITAN-- UNWARE THAT HE IS THE SECRET AGENT SELECTED BY THE PLANT MASTER TO DESTROY EARTH-- FINISHES OFF THE LAST OF THE SPORES...



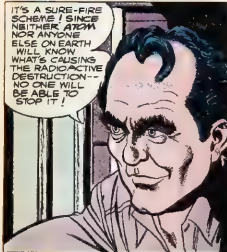
NOW LET'S TAKE JASON WOODRUE BACK, MAYA!

AND SO, JASON WOODRUE IS BROUGHT BACK TO THE EARTH-PRISON FROM WHICH HE ESCAPED...

I COULDN'T RESIST COMING BACK TO EARTH-- WHERE FROM THIS CELL I SHALL HAVE A RINGSIDE VIEW OF EARTH'S DESTRUCTION! NATURALLY, I TOOK AN ANTIDOTE TO SAFEGUARD ME FROM THE RADIOACTIVE RAIN!



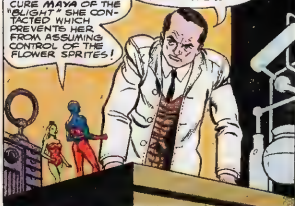
IT'S A SURE-FIRE SCHEME! SINCE NEITHER ATOM NOR ANYONE ELSE ON EARTH WILL KNOW WHAT'S CAUSING THE RADIOACTIVE DESTRUCTION-- NO ONE WILL BE ABLE TO STOP IT!



MEANWHILE, IN AN IVY UNIVERSITY BOTANY LABORATORY...

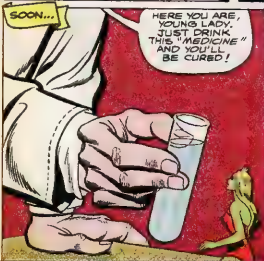
PROFESSOR PERRY, I'M HOPING YOU CAN CURE MAYA OF THE "BLIGHT" SHE CONTACTED WHICH PREVENTS HER FROM ASSUMING CONTROL OF THE FLOWER SPRITES!

H/MMM. LET ME RUN A FEW TESTS, AND WE'LL SEE...



SOON...

HERE YOU ARE, YOUNG LADY. JUST DRINK THIS "MEDICINE" AND YOU'LL BE CURED!



MAYA DRINKS-- AND THEN SHRIEKS IN HORROR...

OHHH-- NO!!

MAYA-- WHAT'S WRONG? YOU ACT AS IF IT'S THE END OF THE WORLD!



IT IS THE END OF YOUR WORLD, ATOM! NOW THAT MY BLIGHT IS GONE, I CAN HEAR THE DISTANT VOICES OF MY FLOWER SPRITES, WARNING ME THAT A RADIOACTIVE SHOWER IS ABOUT TO RAIN DOWN ON EARTH--WHICH YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR--WHEN YOU SMASHED THOSE SEEDS ON FLORIDA!

JASON WOODRUE WOULD HAVE PLANNED IT TO HAPPEN THAT WAY! CAN ANYTHING BE DONE TO STOP IT?

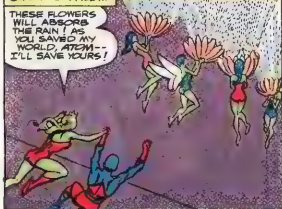


YES! NOW THAT I HAVE REGAINED MY POWERS, I SHALL COMMAND THE SYLPHIDES, THE SPIRITS OF THE AIR, MY FLOWER SPRITES--TO SWIFTLY GATHER THE PLANTS IN FLORIDA THAT THRIVE ON RADIOACTIVITY AND BRING THEM HERE TO EARTH!



RACING AGAINST THE CLOCK, THE SYLPHIDES AND SPRITES CARRY THEIR BOUQUETS INTO EARTH'S UPPER ATMOSPHERE AND AS THE DEADLY RAINS START TO FALL...

THESE FLOWERS WILL ABSORB THE RAIN! AS YOU SAVED MY WORLD, ATOM--I'LL SAVE YOURS!



AND IN A FEDERAL PRISON CELL...

WHERE ARE THE EARTH-SHATTERING EXPLOSIONS? WHERE IS THE DESTRUCTIVE RADIOACTIVE RAIN? THEY'RE LONG OVERDUE! IS IT POSSIBLE--THAT THE ATOM FOUND A WAY TO STOP ME--AGAIN? WHAT DID I DO WRONG?



BULLETS BOUNCE OFF HIM!
KNIVES BREAK AGAINST HIS IMPENETRABLE SKIN!
Even **H-BOMBS** CAN'T HARM HIM!

THE WHOLE WORLD MARVELS AT SUPERMAN'S INVULNERABILITY! BUT NOW, HE DEVELOPS ONE MORTAL WEAKNESS! LIKE THE LEGENDARY WARRIOR, **ACHILLES**, WHOSE **HEEL** PROVED HIS DOWNFALL, THE **MAN OF STEEL** BECOMES VULNERABLE TO DEADLY HARM IN **ONE PART** OF HIS BODY, WHERE A SIMPLE POISON ARROW CAN WOUND HIM FATALLY!

DON'T MISS THE THRILL-A-SECOND SAGA OF...

"SUPERMAN'S ACHILLES' HEEL!"

SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
NOW ON SALE!

INSIDE THE ATOM

Dear Editor: EXTRACALAFRAGILEWATSIS! This is the only way I know of to describe *The Atom* 22. It was what I call a real swinger; the way those *Elvarians* in "Bat-Knights of Darkness" fought was something.

As I found myself cheering for the bat-knights, I came up with an idea. Why not put out occasional mags of *The Atom* with the little people helping the *Mighty Mite* fight crime like the tiny people of the bottled city of *Kandor* help *Superman* on occasion?

So all I have to say is, I pledge allegiance to the lance of the tiny people of *Elvara*. And may they live in the pages of *DC Comics* forever! —Mike O'Handley, *Amenia, N.Y.*

(If we should go along with your idea of utilizing the tiny people of *Elvara* we may get hung up as far as the next reader is concerned. —Editor)

Dear Editor: In issue 22 of *The Atom*, you asked how we liked Gardner Fox's handling of the "little people." I answer: I don't like it! Everytime G. Fox uses persons out of legendary fiction, he changes them to science-fiction characters. Not that I don't like science-fiction, but I do not like the idea of elves using electric lances.

How about other examples? Like the time *Hawkmán* battled the "harpies" from outer space. Remember when *The Atom* became the genie in "Aladdin's" (Al Atom) lamp? These beings are supposed to be supernatural. I hope we don't learn that the friendly menhune (may nay WHO nay—at least get that right!) up *Manoa* doesn't come from dimension pi-radical-minus-one. —Fred Kau, *Honolulu, Hawaii.*

Dear Editor: *Atom* 22 was a welcome change, in more ways than one. First of all, I was glad to see it wasn't an all regular hood type criminal issue, nor was it a spy issue as was the last. Yes, the costumed villain was back, or so it seemed—something which is a bit unusual for an *Atom* script. I honestly think this sparse showing of costumes is one of the many things that make *Atom* good, for then we enjoy a wider range of tastes. I mean, after all, regular hoods get tiresome.

Gil Kane's artwork is extremely good this issue. I do, though, have one comment to make about the art. At times the muscles and *Atom's* positions are too exaggerated and bulging. I might even go so far as to say that at times they are so exaggerated that he has muscles that are not even there! —Frank Klein, *Webster Groves, Mo.*

(Perhaps it is artist Gil Kane's slender frame that prompts him to compensate by endowing his her-

oes (*Green Lantern* as well as *Atom*) with an abundant supply of muscles! —Editor)

Dear Editor: When I saw the ad for *Atom* 22 in one of your other magazines, I literally groaned, sighed and said "Not again!" Again, one of the best super-hero mags on the market, *Atom*, was featuring a tale o' the little people, who we have seen as leprechauns and elves but are really etc. I kept this attitude until I bothered to read the mag, and I would like this opportunity to publicly eat my words.

True, too much small is as bad, if not worse, than too much big (meaning super-strong monsters and the like), but these lethal little lancers were extremely well handled, not "cute" in the slightest (thank heaven), and, for once, mean as mean can get. In the past, the infinitesimal civilizations that *Atom* has met up with have been doll-like little creatures, bent on doing nothing but kind and good things, wishing peace unto all of Earth's creatures, *ad nauseum*. It was refreshing to see them as rather savage little barbarians, infected with the cancer of race-hatred, as human, or less human, than we "tall men."

The story was well-written, even though the bit with Eddie Gordon (who looks suspiciously like Oscar-winner Karl Malden) was unneeded. The scenes with that over-zealous photographer were properly terrifying, with the blood-lusty *Elvarians* attacking him with all the blind hate of a swarm of army ants. I'd like to see what would happen to *Our Friend The Atom* if, on a future visit to the caves of *Elvara*, he suddenly found himself as Ray Palmer, twelve times his *Atomic* height, with no way to escape or return to normal. On second thought, forget it! *The Atom* is good for another thousand issues at least, Let's not get rid of him this early! —Guy H. Lillian III, *Walnut Creek, Cal.*

(Our Favorite Guy pre-judged *Atom* 22 unfavorably and was good enough to eat his words. Our final critic was of a different mind and appetite—he simply chewed us alive! —Editor)

Dear Editor: The *New Look* started with *Batman* in 1964 and it has spread to many of your other magazines—but in *The Atom* you've pulled a real bomb by letting the *New Look* take over. The January issue's "Bat-Knights of Darkness" was just too improbable to believe. I read it three times over and each time it got so ridiculous I felt like laughing. —Sal Iacopelli, *Boonton, N.J.*

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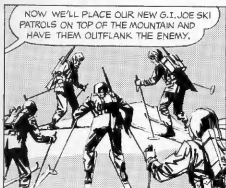
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